

THE BLACK BOX

By E. PHILLIPS OPPENHEIM.

(Continued from Yesterday.)

CHAPTER IV.

THERE seemed to be nothing at all original in the methods pursued by the great criminologist when confronted with the tableau of death and robbery. His remarks to the inspector were few and perfunctory. He asked only a few languid questions of Macdougall and Lenora, who were summoned to his presence.

"You had left the hotel, I understand, at the time when the crime occurred," he asked the former. Macdougall, grave and respectful, made his answers with difficulty. His voice was choked with emotion.

"I brought my mistress home from the opera, sir, I rode on the box with Mrs. Delaney's chauffeur. After I had seen her safely in the hotel I went up to my room for two minutes and left the hotel by the back entrance."

"Anyone else?" "The doorman, sir, and I passed a page upon the stairs."

"Wasn't it rather late for you to go out?" "My days are a little dull here, sir," Macdougall replied, "and my attendance is not required early in the morning. I have made some friends in the city, and I usually go out to a restaurant and have a drink."

"Quite natural," Mr. Quest agreed. "That will do, thank you." Macdougall turned toward the door. Lenora was about to follow, but Quest asked her to remain.

"I should like to have a little conversation with you about your mistress," he said to her pleasantly. "If you don't mind, I will ask you to accompany me in my car. I will send the man back with you."

For a moment the girl stood quite still. Her face was already ghastly pale. Her eyes alone seemed to indicate some fresh fear.

"I will go to my rooms and put on my hat," she said. Quest pointed through the half-open door.

"That will be your hat and coat upon the bed, there, won't it?" he remarked. "I am sorry to hurry you off, but I have another appointment. You will send, of course, for the young lady's friends," he added, turning to Mr. Marshall, "and cable her people."

"There is nothing more you can do, Mr. Quest," the hotel manager added, a little querulously. "This affair must be cleared up for the credit of my hotel."

Quest shrugged his shoulders. He glanced through the open door to where Lenora was arranging her coat with trembling fingers.

"There will be little difficulty about that," he said calmly. "If you are quite ready, Miss Lenora, is that your name?"

"Lenora is my name, sir," the girl replied. They descended in the lift together, and Quest handed the girl into the car.

They drove quickly through the silent streets, and the stars were shining brightly. Lenora shivered as she leaned back in her corner.

"You are cold, I am afraid," Quest remarked. "Never mind, there will be a good fire in my study. I shall only keep you for a few moments. I dare not be away for long just now, as I have a very important case on."

"There is nothing more that I can tell you," Lenora ventured, a little fearfully. "Can't you ask me what you want to, now, as we go along?"

"We have already arrived," Quest told her. "Do you mind following me?" She crossed the pavement and passed through the front door which Quest was holding open for her. They stepped into the little lift, and a moment later Lenora was installed in an easy chair in Quest's sitting room, in front of a roaring fire.

"Lean back and make yourself comfortable," Quest invited, as he took a chair opposite to her. "I must just look through these papers."

The girl did as she was told. She opened her coat. The room was darkly lit, and she felt almost as though she were alone. She began to feel a little nervous, and she was passing into sleep. She started up, but sank back again almost immediately. She was conscious of a hand laid down the letters which he had been pretending to read. His eyes were fixed upon her. There was a queer new look in them, a strange new feeling creeping through her veins. Was he going to sleep?

Quest's voice broke an unnatural silence. "You are anxious to telephone someone," he said. "You looked at both of the booths as we came through the hotel. Then you remembered, I think, that he would not be there yet. Telephone now. The telephone is at your right hand. You know the number."

She obeyed almost at once. She took the receiver from the instrument by her side.

"Number 700, New York city," she said. "You will ask Quest continued, 'whether he is all right, whether the jewels are safe.'"

"The story of THE BLACK BOX will be continued in the Home Edition of The Times tomorrow."

FINANCIAL

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—of uniformly good service in steady growth.

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Add your name to the list next pay day.

Same rate of interest paid on both large and small accounts.

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ON REAL ESTATE

JOSEPH I. WELLS, 620 N. N. Y.

LOCAL AND NEW YORK FINANCIAL NEWS

PRICES ARE FIRMER ON LOCAL EXCHANGE

Volume of Trading Normal at Today's Session of Washington Stock Market.

Prices were slightly firmer, and the volume of trading normal at today's session of the Washington Stock Exchange. The sales recorders were evenly divided between the stock and bond lists.

Washington Gas 5 per cent bonds were in good demand, and \$3,000 worth were sold at 105 1/4, or one-quarter of a point above the last previous sale. The quotation prices were established at 105 bid and 105 1/4 asked. Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone 5 1/2s likewise showed an advance, selling up three-eighths of a point to 104 1/4, the price commanded for \$2,000 worth.

Other bond sales included \$1,000 worth of Washington Railway and Electric 4 1/2s at 80 1/4 to 80 1/2, a \$500 capital traction lot at 105 1/4, and \$250 worth of United States Government coupon 3 1/2s at 101.

The Washington Railway and Electric Power issues led the stock list, fifty shares of the common selling at 88 1/4, and an odd lot of twenty shares of the preferred at 84. Morgan Guaranty Life stock was off 1/2 point from the price that prevailed at the close of last week.

Three quotation lots were traded in at 1/2. The only other sales of the day consisted of one share of Lincoln National Bank stock at 160, and five shares of American National Bank stock at the same figure.

Vital Records

Births.

Angelo and Antonia Procola, boy. William E. and Nellie L. Schultz, girl. Harry P. and Margaret M. Givens, girl. Harold L. and Lulu L. Givens, girl. Harold L. and Lulu L. Givens, girl. John R. and Alice L. Berse, girl. Frank A. and Nora N. Thibodeau, girl. Gus and Edna Sullivan, girl. Bartholomew and Edna M. Russell, girl. Glen H. and Lorna G. Payne, boy. Harry and Rowena Logan, girl. Claud and Elmina P. Livingston, girl. William F. and Edna M. Livingston, girl. Lee D. and Bertha Hall, boy. Clarence W. and Beale V. Chamberlain, girl. A. Elsworth and Lydia L. Chapelle, girl. C. Wilson and Ida B. Bennett, boy. Mathew C. and Kate E. Howell, girl. Herbert and Josephine Johnson, girl. Thornton and Anna Jones, boy. William and Eleanor Montgomery, girl. James and Kate Lee, girl. Arthur and Mary Easton, boy. Isaac and Panny Brown, boy.

Marriage Licenses.

PORTER and PRESGRAVE, 24, and Katie Stephenson, 22. Isaac A. Leckie, 26, and Anna Natsky, 22. Isaac A. Leckie, 26, and Anna Natsky, 22. Sam C. Robinson, 22, and Ida Hillman, 22.

Deaths.

Wm. A. Hamilton, 79 yrs., 1841 Wyo. av. N. W. Mrs. H. Crook, 73 yrs., 3224 12th st. N. W. Mary L. Ross, 70 yrs., 722 Mass. av. N. W. John C. Curran, 74 yrs., 375 Carroll st. N. W. Charles E. Cornwell, 61 yrs., 809 24th st. N. W. Richard E. Burton, 51 yrs., 226 R. st. N. W. Alice Dickinson, 50 yrs., Govt. Hoast. In. Wm. Walton, 58 yrs., Govt. Hoast. In. Robert M. McMahon, 36 yrs., 261 S. E. John W. Shadwell, 50 yrs., Geo. Wash. Michael O'Leary, 56 yrs., Casualty Hoast. Francis McGarrick, 70 yrs., Garfield Hoast. Rebecca Seemore, 57 yrs., 1219 G. st. N. W. Ernest Stathomelos, 70 yrs., 613 25th st. N. W. Infant of Wm. C. and Grace T. Burkett, 1 day. Gardiner, 15 yrs., Grace T. Burkett, 1 day. Dorothy M. Woodson, 1 yr., 124 Wille st. N. E. Lucy Baker, 26 yrs., Columbia Hoast. Peter Sprague, 46 yrs., 348 Pa. av. N. W. Alice Robinson, 31 yrs., 1219 G. st. N. W. Louis Perrell, 20 yrs., 25 McCulloch st. N. W. Wilford Colman, 36 yrs., 406 Richardson place N. W. Howard Robinson, 16 mos., Children's Hoast. Helen E. French, 1 mos., 226 R. st. N. W. Alice Dickinson, 50 yrs., Govt. Hoast. In. Mary B. Carroll, 47 yrs., 1736 Kilbourne st. N. W. Katharine E. Rothstein, 42 yrs., 6 P. st. N. E. Elizabeth T. Harding, 40 yrs., 1308 Emerson st. N. W. Mary Jacobus, 37 yrs., Garfield Hoast. Charles Seemore, 57 yrs., 1219 G. st. N. W. Hazel V. King, 20 mos., Child's Hoast. Martha Morton, 41 yrs., Freedmen's Hoast. Dorothy Williams, 1 yr., Shepherd road. George Williams, 4 yrs., Shepherd road. Woodburn, D. C. Henry West, 10 mos., 218 H. st. N. W. Edward Jackson, 3 mos., 1618 2nd st. N. E.

Substitutes.

Tourist (in village notion-store)—Whaddyas got in the shape of automobile tires? Funeral wreaths, life preservers, invalid cushions and doughnuts. Judge.

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To deposit your savings in this bank is both SAFE and PROFITABLE. In addition to surrounding your money with that strong protection which only a NATIONAL BANK of large resources can give, our SAVINGS DEPARTMENT pays you FULL INTEREST on every dollar deposited.

Call now and let us give you a good start on the way to future prosperity and independence.

3% Interest Paid on Daily Balances in Our Savings Department

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Corner Fourteenth and C Streets

Local Stocks.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes U. S. Reg. 2 1/2s, U. S. Coupon 2 1/2s, U. S. Coupon 3 1/2s, U. S. Reg. 4 1/2s, U. S. Coupon 4 1/2s, D. C. 5 1/2s.

RAILROAD BONDS.

Table with 2 columns: Bond Name, Price. Includes Capital Traction R. R. 5 1/2s, Am. Pot. Guar. 5 1/2s, Am. Pot. Guar. 5 1/2s, City & Suburban 5 1/2s, Metropolitan R. R. 5 1/2s, Wash. Alex. & Mt. V. S. 5 1/2s, Wash. Balt. & An. 5 1/2s.

MISCELLANEOUS BONDS.

Table with 2 columns: Bond Name, Price. Includes Potomac Elec. Cons. 5 1/2s, Potomac Elec. 5 1/2s, C. & P. Telephone 5 1/2s, Amer. Tel. & Tel. 5 1/2s, Wash. Market 5 1/2s, Wash. Cold Storage 5 1/2s, Wash. Cold Storage 5 1/2s, Riggs Realty (108) 5 1/2s, Riggs Realty (short) 5 1/2s.

PUBLIC UTILITY STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes Wash. Ry. & Elec. com., Wash. Ry. & Elec. pref., Wash. Balt. & An. com., Amer. Tel. & Tel. com.

TYPE MACHINE STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes 'Mergenthaler Linotype' 17 1/2s.

MINING STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes Greene Cananea 27, American National Bank 150, Capital National Bank 200, Columbia National Bank 250, Commercial National Bank 196, Federal National Bank 225, Lincoln Nat. Bank 290, Metropolitan Nat. Bank 290, Riggs Nat. Bank 290, Second Nat. Bank 140, Nat. Bank of Wash. 144.

TRUST COMPANY STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes Amer. Sec. & Trust 275, National Sav. & Trust 282, Union Trust 128, Wash. Loan & Trust 128, Continental Trust 116.

SAVINGS BANK STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes Home Savings 375, Bank of Com. & Sav. 12, East Wash. Sav. Bank 12, Fire Insurance Stocks.

FIRE INSURANCE STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes Corcoran Fire Insurance 80, Firemen's Fire Insurance 18, Firemen's Fire Insurance 18, Nat. Union Fire Insurance 20, Columbia Title Insurance 5, Real Estate Title Insurance 5.

MISCELLANEOUS STOCKS.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes Chapin Sacks 200, Graphophone common 57 1/2, Graphophone preferred 100, Merch. Trans. & Storage 106, Security Storage 120, Washington Market 17 1/2.

Local Sales.

Table with 2 columns: Item, Price. Includes United States Coupon 3 1/2s, Capital Traction 5 1/2s, Washington Railway 4 1/2s, Chesapeake & Potomac Telephone 5 1/2s, Washington Railway common, 250 shares, 250 shares.

Washington Railway preferred, 200 shares, 200 shares.

Morgan Guaranty Life, 100 shares, 100 shares.

American National Bank, 150 shares, 150 shares.

Capital National Bank, 200 shares, 200 shares.

Columbia National Bank, 250 shares, 250 shares.

Commercial National Bank, 196 shares, 196 shares.

Federal National Bank, 225 shares, 225 shares.

Lincoln Nat. Bank, 290 shares, 290 shares.

Metropolitan Nat. Bank, 290 shares, 290 shares.

Riggs Nat. Bank, 290 shares, 290 shares.

Second Nat. Bank, 140 shares, 140 shares.

Nat. Bank of Wash., 144 shares, 144 shares.

New York Stocks.

Table with 2 columns: Stock Name, Price. Includes Alaska Gold, Amal. Copper, Am. Beet. Sug. com., American Can., Am. Can. pref., Am. C. & P. pref., Am. Ice Sec., Am. Smelting, Am. Sugar & R., Am. Tel. & Tel., Am. Tob. pref. new, Alchison, Balt. & Ohio, Bethlehem Steel, B. F. Goodrich, Brook Rpd. Trans., California Pet., Col. & South. com., Canadian Pacific, Central Leather, C. M. & St. P., Chicago & N. W., Col. & South. com., Con. Gas, Corn Products, Corn Product pref., Distillers Sec., Erie, Erie 1st pref., Erie 2nd pref., Erie 3rd pref., Erie 4th pref., Erie 5th pref., Erie 6th pref., Erie 7th pref., Erie 8th pref., Erie 9th pref., Erie 10th pref., Erie 11th pref., Erie 12th pref., Erie 13th pref., Erie 14th pref., Erie 15th pref, Erie 16th pref, Erie 17th pref, Erie 18th pref, Erie 19th pref, Erie 20th pref, Erie 21st pref, Erie 22nd pref, Erie 23rd pref, Erie 24th pref, Erie 25th pref, Erie 26th pref, Erie 27th pref, Erie 28th pref, Erie 29th pref, Erie 30th pref, Erie 31st pref, Erie 32nd pref, Erie 33rd pref, Erie 34th pref, Erie 35th pref, Erie 36th pref, Erie 37th pref, Erie 38th pref, Erie 39th pref, Erie 40th pref, Erie 41st pref, Erie 42nd pref, Erie 43rd pref, Erie 44th pref, Erie 45th pref, Erie 46th pref, Erie 47th pref, Erie 48th pref, Erie 49th pref, Erie 50th pref, Erie 51st pref, Erie 52nd pref, Erie 53rd pref, Erie 54th pref, Erie 55th pref, Erie 56th pref, Erie 57th pref, Erie 58th pref, Erie 59th pref, Erie 60th pref, Erie 61st pref, Erie 62nd pref, Erie 63rd pref, Erie 64th pref, Erie 65th pref, Erie 66th pref, Erie 67th pref, Erie 68th pref, Erie 69th pref, Erie 70th pref, Erie 71st pref, Erie 72nd pref, Erie 73rd pref, Erie 74th pref, Erie 75th pref, Erie 76th pref, Erie 77th pref, Erie 78th pref, Erie 79th pref, Erie 80th pref, Erie 81st pref, Erie 82nd pref, Erie 83rd pref, Erie 84th pref, Erie 85th pref, Erie 86th pref, Erie 87th pref, Erie 88th pref, Erie 89th pref, Erie 90th pref, Erie 91st pref, Erie 92nd pref, Erie 93rd pref, Erie 94th pref, Erie 95th pref, Erie 96th pref, Erie 97th pref, Erie 98th pref, Erie 99th pref, Erie 100th pref.

NEW YORK MARKET HAS FIRMER TONE

Strength of Alaska Gold and Motor Stocks Features Early Trading.

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The feature of the early trading was the strength of Alaska Gold and the motor stocks. Alaska Gold recorded an advance during the morning of 1 1/2 points, and established a new high record for the stock by selling at 2 1/2.

General Motors also established a new high mark by selling up to 100, a gain of 10 points over the previous day's closing. The point was held by the stock, which was also registered small gains.

There was very little trading in the points, and the market was generally quiet. Steel was likewise fractionally stronger.

The formal announcement of the Erie blockade, Germany was not reflected in the market.

Founded by Alexander Hamilton in 1784, the oldest bank in this city, today celebrates its 131st birthday. This institution changed from a State to a national bank in 1865.

Hamilton drew the constitution, and took one and one-half shares of stock. The value of which was \$500 per share. Aaron Burr took three shares. There were nine women stockholders. Hamilton resigned from the directorate five years after the bank was started, when he became the first Secretary of the Treasury.

Dr. Karl Helfferich, secretary of the Imperial Treasury of Germany, in introducing the budget on March 12, stated the belief that the cost of the war for all of the belligerents was \$1,000,000,000.

The cost to the British in the first eight months of the war was \$1,000,000,000, and to the French and Russians probably \$1,000,000,000, the new agency statement continues.

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Additional subscription to the new war loan, amounting to \$1,000,000,000, have been received. The Overseas Agency says, from neutral countries.

Snow-Bound Rabbits Eat Bark, Kill Trees

BEAVER DAM, WIS., March 15.—You've heard of the Kansas grasshopper which destroys trees by kicking them to pieces, but Beaver Dam has a tribe of rabbits that is killing fruit trees and berry bushes by devouring them.

Of course, they don't mutilate the whole thing, but they are gnawing the bark away in rings and the trees and bushes are sure to die. The severe cold weather and a deep snow for a short time ago is blamed for the voracious appetite. Several hundred dollars' damage has been done already.

Colonial Furniture Is Subject of Lecture

"Colonial Furniture" will be discussed by Arthur L. Blakelee, president of the Washington Artistic Club, at the mid-Lent social and lecture meeting of the organization tomorrow night at 1317 H street northwest. The talk will be illustrated. A musical program will be given and refreshments will be served by the ladies.

Pay Day Will Have a New Meaning

—for you as soon as you begin to deposit a portion of your weekly or monthly salary in this bank.

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FINANCIAL

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SWARTZELL, RHEEM & HENSEN CO., 17 1/2th STREET N. W.

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